

# Albuquerque's National Night Out 2003!

August/September 2003

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A Publication Of The Office Of Neighborhood Coordination



**Downtown Dads & Babies  
Celebrate National Night Out 2003**

Land Use Town Hall  
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## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS/NEW OFFICERS

The Office of Neighborhood Coordination “welcomes” new presidents of neighborhood associations and says a “special thank you” to outgoing presidents. Thank you for all your hard work and commitment to the improvement of the life-style of your neighborhood.

### **Neighborhood Association**

Executive Hills  
North Edith Corridor  
North Valley Coalition  
S.R. Marmon  
South San Pedro  
Supper Rock  
Tanoan Community East  
Parkland Hills

### **“Welcome” to Incoming President**

Richard White  
Bob Warrick  
Ken Balizer  
Deaun Lewis  
Marissa Nordstrom  
Jack M. Harris  
Kevin Powers  
Theresa Brooks

### **“Thanks” to Outgoing President**

Kate Olsberg  
George Montez  
Jens Deichmann  
Claude Luisada  
Enrique Cardiel  
Bob Benner  
Pat Farnsworth  
Rita Martinez

Altura Park Neighborhood Association regained their “Recognized” status on July 31, 2003.  
S.R. Marmon Neighborhood Association regained their “Recognized” status on July 22, 2003.  
Santa Barbara-Martineztown Association regained their “Recognized” status on July 17, 2003.  
South San Pedro Neighborhood Association regained their “Recognized” status on July 21, 2003.  
Supper Rock Neighborhood Association regained their “Recognized” status on July 23, 2003.

## NEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The **Altura Village Homeowners Association** is located in *City Council District 7, Police Beat – SE/325; County Commission District 3 and Community Identity Area – Near Heights*. The contacts for this association are *Charles Buehler and Tish Silva*. **Welcome Aboard!!**

The **Sombra Del Monte Neighborhood Association** is located in *City Council District 7, Police Beat – NE/422; County Commission District 4 and Community Identity Area – Mid-Heights*. The contacts for this association are *Jim Hickok and Ray E. Leverich*. They became a recognized neighborhood association on July 28, 2003. **Welcome Aboard!!**

The City of Albuquerque does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, disability, age, gender, Vietnam Era or disabled veteran status, sexual orientation or medical condition in employment or in the provision of services. If you have a disability and will need special assistance to benefit from any of the meetings, hearings, or workshops, etc. appearing in this newsletter, contact the office sponsoring the event two weeks prior to the date of the meeting you plan to attend. Whenever possible, TTY phone numbers will be listed. TTY users may call any phone number listed in this publication via Relay New Mexico at **1-800-659-8331**.



## A Message From The Mayor

Martin J. Chavez

### Justice for Kids First

(Convicted Sex Offender Rights Should  
Come A Distant Second – Not The  
Other Way Around)

When the Founding Fathers crafted our constitutional form of government, they included a legal concept summed up as “better a hundred guilty go free than a single innocent be wrongly convicted.” Today, this is one of the very pillars of justice in our society.

But that concept has crept past the idea of innocent until proven guilty. Today, even convicted child sex offenders seem to have a bottomless well of rights.

Wild extensions of rights to the convicted by every conceivable angle and twist would be bad enough from a cost spiral perspective, but it also has the much more dire consequence of putting our children at increased risk. Sex offenders are quite simply the criminals least amenable to reform, period. So called “experts” who testify convincingly otherwise in courts of law, and judges who buy it, are really doing our families and our future a sickening injustice.

Last Fall, as it became apparent that our state and town were gaining a national reputation among released child sex offenders as a place that would be lenient in monitoring them, I set about strengthening our local ordinances to address the situation. The bill I put before the City Council for passage was called SOAP (Sexual Offender Alert Program).

It sought to do a number of things to make being an anonymous convicted sex offender in our community considerably harder.

Soon after being sued successfully by the American Civil Liberties Union over the new ordinance, the urgent need for such legislation was brought home to us in the heart wrenching case of a Santa Fe teen killed at the Sunshine Theater. The

man accused of her murder was none other than a convicted child rapist.

What in blazes was this predator doing on parole in the first place? An ‘expert’ evidently testified that his ‘treatment’ would be better facilitated through a sentence served on probation.

Where’s the justice in that for the baby girl he sexually assaulted? Where’s the justice in that for the grieving family of a teenager whose life was taken thereafter? Where is the justice for our community as a whole, when the focus is on the ‘treatment’ of the predator at the peril of the public?

But since a court has spoken, and our community’s safety won’t wait for a possible judicial reversal on appeal, I have proposed more narrowly focused legislation designed to at least force greater notification when a convicted sex offender is turned loose.

Greater “sunshine,” as we call the new ordinance, surely won’t stop all offenders from offending again. But the more we know about who the predators are among us, the more of a fighting chance we have at protecting our families.

Employer notification would seem like a no-brainer, but even that has come under attack by those who think there is somehow an iota of positive difference likely in the recidivism of an idle predator who is well monitored versus an employed one who isn’t.

This may hold true for criminal behavior that is economically motivated, but it betrays a cruel misunderstanding of what drives a sex offender to strike again. I say cruel, because that’s what it is to the rest of society. The pedophiles roam free, and it’s our children who are virtually locked up day in and day out, for their own protection.

To restore some semblance of the balance our Founders surely had in mind, let me suggest the following corollary:

“Better a hundred convicted sex offenders spend the rest of their lives under the strict supervision of the criminal justice system, than one single child fall victim to a repeat offender.”

This would be closer to true justice than what we’ve seen passed by the Roundhouse so far in terms of Megan’s laws, or handed down in judgment by the courts when we attempt to strike a more just balance at the city level.

I urge all Albuquerque residents to contact their lawmakers on the subject if they too want a fundamental adjustment in our criminal justice outlook.

Martin J. Chavez, Mayor



### Neighborhood Workshop Corner

Workshops are held in the Plaza Del Sol Building Hearing Room #160, Basement Level, 600 Second St. NW.

#### Land Use and Zoning Workshop Saturday, September 27, 2003 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This workshop is designed to increase your knowledge and understanding of all the aspects of Zoning and Land Use issues at EPC, DRB and ZHE hearings. We utilize the Planning Department division managers and selected community and board members to provide this informative training. Register on line at [www.cabq.gov/planning/pages/neighborhood/newsletter/newsletter.html](http://www.cabq.gov/planning/pages/neighborhood/newsletter/newsletter.html).



# NEIGHBORHOOD SCOOP

News From And For Neighborhoods



## ACROSS THE CITY NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2003





## NEIGHBORHOOD SCOOP continued



Herb Howell

### From The Manager's Desk

#### A Simple Approach To Neighborhood Improvement - Part 3

**TYPES OF INFORMATION** to gather: The following lists show some of the conditions, improvements, and services you may want to look at when you decide what information you will collect. Your group may want to study all or some of the items. You may also decide to add some conditions that are unique to your neighborhood.

#### PHYSICAL RESOURCES

The physical resources of a neighborhood include the land, the environment and the landmarks of an area. These qualities help to shape the character of a neighborhood. Land characteristics such as gulches, hills, and shorelines often form the boundaries of a neighborhood and are, therefore significant landmarks. These landmarks also affect transportation, land use, and other types of systems in your neighborhood. Here are some areas you may want to look at.

Undeveloped Land, Scenic Viewpoints, Waterfront Property, Vacant Lots, Air and Water Quality, Historic Sites, Structures, and Districts.

#### POPULATION

It is important to know something about the people who live in your neighborhood and perhaps the people who are moving in. Here are some of the characteristics to consider.

Number of persons, age of residents, family size and make-up, race, sex, education levels, and special interest such as elderly, females heads of households, and persons with disabilities.

#### HOUSING

Houses are one of the basic building blocks of any neighborhood. Many neighborhood improvement programs begin with the housing conditions within the area. Take a look around you and at the conditions of different parts of your

neighborhood. One way to look at it is to see if the problems are widespread or just limited to certain blocks. Here are some items to take note of: *Homes needing repair; Dangerous homes or buildings; The type of housing; The percentage of homeowners vs. renters; The number of persons in each house or apartment.*

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Every neighborhood includes places that are shared by its residents. Sometimes neighborhoods don't have enough facilities to meet the demands of the people living in the area. Find out what facilities your neighborhood has and what it still needs. These are the some of the most common neighborhood facilities: *Community Centers, Senior Centers, Social Service Centers, Day Care Centers, Centers Serving Persons with Disabilities, Group Homes, Schools, Medical Facilities, Libraries, Fire Stations, Parks, Parking Lots.*

It is important to remember that these facilities must be accessible for persons with disabilities. A map designating the location of all these facilities is very helpful to your community.

#### LAND USE

The City of Albuquerque has land use and zoning regulations that guide how property can be developed and used. Neighborhoods should look at all the current uses: **Residential · Business · Industrial · Public**; what uses are expected for the future, and if different land uses conflict with one another.

Zoning maps are available through the Albuquerque Geographic Information System (AGIS). Call Neal Weinberg at **924-3807**, for further information.

#### ECONOMY

Every Neighborhood has an economy, and you should have a clear idea about how it works. Many government programs are only available for certain income groups, so you may want to find out what the annual incomes are for your neighborhood. Some of the characteristics you may consider: **Annual family income · Unemployment rates · Availability of shopping · Condition of businesses and business districts.**

One suggestion is to put this information into chart form. However some of the data may be best plotted on maps. Graphics

really help make data more clear for people and for presentations.

#### TRANSPORTATION

How do people get around in your neighborhood? Find out where they want to go and how easy or difficult it is to get there. Here are some of the conditions that affect transportation: **Street Conditions · Sidewalk Conditions · Curb Ramps · Alley Conditions · Traffic Flow · Bus Routes · Bike Paths.**

All this information can be put on map. You may want to compare a facilities map with a transportation map to see if people can get to the places, with reasonable ease, they want to go.

#### OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Every neighborhood has many other important characteristics which we will not begin to generalize about. Let me suggest a few other aspects you might want to look at. What is the adequacy of your local social services, utilities, police and fire protection, health services, and any other aspects you may want to consider? Decide what individual characteristics make up your neighborhood. Then you want to collect information that will help you decide how to maintain that quality of life while responding to the changing needs of people.

#### ANALYSIS

"Once you have collected your information, you need to figure out what it all means. These questions and other will help guide your decision-making discussions. **1.** How do neighborhood conditions compare to the rest of the city? **2.** Are conditions stable or changing? **3.** What conditions are dangerous to health or safety? **4.** What conditions affect the largest number of people? **5.** What services or facilities are not available? **6.** Are conditions a serious problem or just a minor inconvenience? **7.** Do a lot of people in the area recognize a common need? **8.** What facilities or services are inadequate to meet the need? **9.** Are there large groups, such as female heads of households, with special needs? **10.** What conditions have a negative effect on neighborhood morale and attitudes? The conclusions you reach during these discussions will help you work through the steps for neighborhood improvement presented in the previous section.

Enjoy!

## NEIGHBORHOOD SCOOP continued

### Community Policing On The Move



### WEED AND SEED Part I

*Submitted By Carl Bartlett*

Three or four years ago a neighbor was not "making nice". This neighbor lived in a rented home in the Foothills Police Command area. The neighbor owned a beat-up van of indeterminate age and the van was maintained indifferently; the van often had flat tire(s), broken headlights and taillights. Apparently, the van was not registered or licensed. One day a vigilant, other, neighbor observed that the van's owner had placed a license plate on the van and then had driven the van. This incident was reported to the police. The police conducted an investigation and they determined that the license plate, that had been placed on the van, had been issued to another motor vehicle, an automobile, and that the van had not been registered. Finally, the van was towed away and ceased to be a matter of concern within the neighborhood.

In this same neighborhood several other incidents occurred that involved motor vehicles. In one case a large construction truck was parked on a certain street. This vehicle was also observed speeding in the neighborhood. This vehicle and the operator were reported to the police and the vehicle was removed from the neighborhood. In the same neighborhood another person was operating his vehicle in an unsafe manner at different times. The Block Captain notified the police and the operator changed his attitude.

The foregoing items are presented to you, the readers, as an example of Community Oriented Policing Problem Solving and how Weed and Seed can become operational.

The reader, who has been following this column, should have a good understand-

ing of Community Oriented Policing Problem Solving and how the Community and the Police can cooperate with each other to help communities to become safer, cleaner and neater.

The idea behind Weed and Seed is that if small irregularities in a community are corrected immediately larger problems may not arise. If broken windows in untended and uninhabited commercial buildings are repaired immediately every one is put on notice that irregularities are not acceptable. If abandoned vehicles are removed quickly the message, "You can't use my backyard as a dumping ground," is shouted to the neighborhood. When graffiti is destroyed the miscreants get the message, "You can't slop paint in my neighborhood." Weed and Seed is basically a statement by the communities that we will not tolerate irregularities, weeds, and will replace them in some manner with seeds that will help to grow a garden of a good neighborhoods.

The executive Office for Weed and Seed, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice has issued a booklet entitled The Weed and Seed Strategy and Justice has given the general public authorization to completely reproduce the entire booklet. We have decided to print MOST of the booklet to better inform our readers.

In 1991 the U.S. Department of Justice established Operation Weed and Seed; a community-based multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood restoration. The goals of Weed and Seed are to control violent crime, drug trafficking, and drug-related crime in targeted high-crime neighborhoods and provide a safe environment free of crime and drug use for residents. The Weed and Seed strategy brings together federal, state, and local crime – fighting agencies, social service providers, representatives of the public and private sectors, prosecutors, business owners, and neighborhood residents under the shared goal of weeding out violent crime and gang activity while seeding in social services and economic revitalization.

Weed and Seed began with three pilot sites in 1991 and has spread to more than 250 high-crime neighborhoods across the nation.

The Weed and Seed strategy is a two-pronged approach to crime control and prevention:

1) Law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in "weeding out" criminals from the target area. 2) "Seeding brings prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood revitalization services to the area.

The Weed and Seed approach is unique when compared to traditional crime prevention of the past. .... Residents of Weed and Seed neighborhoods are actively involved in problem solving in their community. Neighborhood watches, citizen marches and rallies, clean-up events, drug-free zones, and graffiti removal are some of the common programs that encourage community participation and help prevent crime.

This is the first article in a series that will run in this paper. More next time.

### Consumer Myth #10

If someone stole my identity I'd know about it. Identity theft may not be discovered until damage has been done to your credit. Obtain a copy of your credit report from all three of the major sources at least once a year to verify accuracy. They are:

**Equifax - 800-525-6285; Experian - 800-301-7195; TransUnion - 800-680-7289.**

Correct all mistakes in writing and send back to the credit-reporting agency. Contact the New Mexico Attorney, Consumer Protection Division at **800-678-1508**. File a consumer complaint on-line at <[www.ago.state.nm.us](http://www.ago.state.nm.us)> or write the office at P.O. Drawer 1508, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1508. You may also check the website of the Federal Trade Commission at:

<[www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft)>.





#### A Message From Your City Council

Council staff may be reached at **768-3100**. The agenda for an upcoming council meeting may be checked by calling **768-3100** after 1 p.m. on the Friday immediately prior to the council meeting. The City Council's fax number is **768-3227**. Agendas, Action Items and Summaries are available on the Council's webpage at <[www.cabq.gov/council/counsched.html](http://www.cabq.gov/council/counsched.html)> (Front Row, L to R: Tina Cummins, District 9; Eric Griego, District 3; Brad Winter, District 4; Sally Mayer, District 7; Michael Cadigan, District 5; Greg Payne, Vice President District 8. Back Row, L to R: Vincent Griego, President, District 2; Miguel Gomez, District 1, Hess Yntema, District 6).

#### City Council Election October 28

Albuquerque city voters will be voting on candidates and issues on three separate dates in upcoming months. The elections will decide important issues at the municipal, county and state levels.

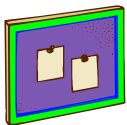
The first election, to be held **Tuesday October 28**, will elect City Council representatives for **Districts 2, 4, 6, and 8**. Also on that ballot will be the 1/4-cent public safety tax and the \$139 million government obligation bond issue for capital improvement projects throughout the city.

Only one incumbent, former Council president Brad Winter from District 4 is seeking to retain his seat on the Council. Councilors Vince Griego (District 2), the current Council president, Hess Yntema (District 6) and Greg Payne (District 8) have announced they will not run for re-election. As a result, at least three new councilors will be joining the five sitting councilors all of whom were first elected to the Council two years ago.

Individuals hoping to be placed on the October 28 city ballot are currently gathering signatures for their candidate petitions. The number of signatures required on those petitions is based on a percentage of each district's voters who voted in the last Council election. Those petitions must be turned in to the City Clerk no later than **5 p.m., Friday, August 22**. On September 2, candidates must declare their candidacy and on September 4, the City Clerk will post the names of the certified as well as the uncertified candidates. The certified candidates will be the ones who will appear on the October 28 ballot. Write-in candidates, i.e. those candidates whose names will not be printed on the ballot, must declare their candidacy on September 16. The City Clerk will post the names of the certified declared write-in candidates and the uncertified write-in candidates on September 18.

**In order to participate in the October 28<sup>th</sup> election city residents who have not yet registered to vote must do so no later than September 30. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.**

In addition to the October 28 city election, voters will go to the polls on September 23 to decide two state constitution amendment issues and on November 4 will approve or reject the city/county unification charter. Additional information regarding dates, polling locations and voting procedures is available on the city's web page at [www.cabq.gov](http://www.cabq.gov) and the Bernalillo County web page [www.bernco.gov](http://www.bernco.gov).



#### News Flashes For Neighborhoods

By Deborah Nason

104 Neighborhood Associations and Block Captains registered events for the 20th Anniversary of National Night Out held this year on August 5, 2003.

There were some very creative events that took place across the City and this is one we thought you should hear about and consider for your association/organization for next year.

This event was put on by **Vista Magnifica Neighborhood Association**, the brainchild of board secretary Marybeth White. Here's what they put on the flyer that went out to all their residents:

"This year we are trying something new with a sense of adventure to help you

get to know your neighbors. Attached to this newsletter is a short list of clues for a 'treasure hunt.' The answers to this puzzle are found within the neighborhood. All you have to do is canvas the neighborhood on Tuesday evening and gather signatures from neighbors who satisfy the clues. Then, drop by for refreshments in front of 1725 Cliffside Dr. Remember, it is the responsibility of all of us to look out for each other and report any suspicious activity in the neighborhood. Thus, it is essential that we show criminals looking for easy targets in our neighborhood that the people of Vista Magnifica are united against crime. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday evening!"


The questionnaire required people to approach their neighbors between 7 - 8 p.m. and ask questions like: Find someone you've never met before; find

someone who is a past president of the neighborhood association; find someone with the same birthday as you; find someone who lived in Silver City; find someone with lots of grandchildren.

Each question required the signature of the person giving the answer. Here's the idea, adapt it to fit your needs for next year's event. It sounds like a great icebreaker!

Thanks to all of you who held events. Thanks to PNM for providing \$100 prize money to each of the winners. Here are the Albuquerque 2003 National Night Out winners: Albuquerque Block Captains, Laurelwood NA, North Campus NA, Altura Park NA, Stardust Skies North NA, Thomas Village Patio HOA, Valley Gardens NA, Clayton Heights/Lomas Del Cielo NA, Desert Spring Flower NA and La Cueva Village NA.

**Congratulations!**

<b>21 - 31</b>	<b>1 - 10</b>	<b>11 - 20</b>	<b>21 - 30</b>
<b>Thursday, August 21</b> •EPC – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Wednesday, September 3</b> •DRB – 9 a.m. •ACTMI – 9:30 a.m. •Westside Coalition – 7 p.m.	<b>Thursday, September 11</b> •POC – 4 p.m.	<b>Monday, September 22</b> •City Council – 5 p.m.
<b>Monday, August 25</b> •City Council – 5 p.m.		<b>Monday, September 15</b> •City Council – 5 p.m.	<b>Tuesday, September 23</b> •BOA – 9 a.m.
<b>Tuesday, August 26</b> •BOA – 9 a.m.	<b>Thursday, September 4</b> •District 7 Coalition – 7 p.m. •North Valley Coalition – 7 p.m.	<b>Tuesday, September 16</b> •ZHE – 9 a.m. •GARTC – 4:30 p.m.	<b>Wednesday, September 24</b> •DRB – 9 a.m. •LEPC – 9 a.m. •EPC Pre-Hearing – 1:30 p.m. •TAB – 1:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, August 27</b> •DRB – 9 a.m. •LEPC – 9 a.m. •EPC Pre-Hearing – 1:30 p.m. •TAB – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Monday, September 8</b> •GABAC – 4:30 p.m. •City Council – 5 p.m. •SWAN – 6:30 p.m.	<b>Wednesday, September 17</b> •DRB – 9 a.m. •District 4 Coalition – 7 p.m.	<b>Thursday, September 25</b> •District 8 Coalition – 7 p.m.
	<b>Wednesday, September 10</b> •DRB – 9 a.m. •LUCC – 3 p.m. •AQC – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Thursday, September 18</b> •EPC – 8:30 a.m.	

### ~Happenings Around Albuquerque~

**•Exhibition Title:** Periphery  
**Exhibition Artists:** Alan Paine Radebaugh, Joyce Shupe, Virginia Oechsner  
**Exhibition Dates:** September 5-27, 2003  
**Exhibition Reception:** Friday, September 5, 5-7:30, Coleman Gallery, 3812 Central SE  
**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday-Saturday, 11:00-5:30

Alan Paine Radebaugh - Visual fragments found in natural surroundings explored and transformed into delicately rendered organic abstract forms in a dynamic world of saturated color.

Joyce Shupe - Oil on canvas, interrupted linear grid paintings, low key color suggesting endless space inspired by water and light.

Virginia Oechsner - Abstract stone and wood sculptures. Bold and pure forms reduced to their bare essence.

**•What:** Nob Hill At Night - A casual evening out with family and friends

**Where:** Nob Hill Business District, 1 walking mile along Central (Historic Rt.66) from Girard to Morningside

**When:** Friday, September 5, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Make it a special Nob Hill At Night evening out Friday, September 5, 5-8 p.m. along Nob Hill's wonderful 1 mile walking business district. Nob Hill is filled with great restaurants, jazz clubs, clothing and jewelry shops, home furnishings, antiques, collectibles, art galleries and more. Nob Hill At Night equals a casual evening stroll with family and friends in Albuquerque's most unique and eclectic business districts. For information call Page **232-0224** or Beverly **268-7449**.

**•Mayor's Town Hall on Land Use** - Mayor Martin J. Chavez invites you to attend a **land use Town Hall, Saturday, September 20 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Convention Center, Taos Room (west wing)**. Call Don Newton at the Office of Neighborhood Coordination for details - **924-3906**.